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Association of Former Federal Narcotic Agents
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March 24, 2003

The Hon. Orrin G. Hatch
Chairman
United States Senate
Committee on the Judiciary
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Deputy Associate Attorney General Karen P. Tandy for the position
of Administrator of the Drug Enforcement Administration

Dear Chairman Hatch:

On behalf of the members of the Association of Former Federal Narcotic Agents (AFFNA), I am pleased and honored to communicate to you our highest personal regards and appreciation for the outstanding support that you have always provided to the federal law enforcement community and, in particular, to the men and women of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

Our organization is comprised of about a thousand former and retired special agents and employees of the DEA and its predecessor agencies. We remain loyal to our lifelong commitment to end the scourge of drug abuse and many of us continue to work closely with our active duty colleagues in federal and local law enforcement in support of that goal.

Given the above, I am happy to inform you that the AFFNA Board of Directors overwhelmingly approves of the recent nomination by President George W. Bush of Deputy Associate Attorney General Karen P. Tandy to be Administrator of the DEA. Ms. Tandy, we believe, has an exceptional resume of service to America, is well-respected among the nation's law enforcement community, and is well-deserving of this important assignment.

As Deputy Associate Attorney General, Ms. Tandy presided over the Justice Department's Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF) program, perhaps one of the most innovative and effective anti-crime forces ever devised. In its two decades of operation, the OCDETF program has served as a template for a number of similar federal-state-local law enforcement partnerships.

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As a retired DEA management official and a former field manager (Special Agent in Charge) of several divisions, I personally can attest to the effectiveness of the OCDETF program in addressing major drug crimes. I have been advised that under Ms. Tandy's direction and leadership this program achieved some of its greatest accomplishments. For all of the above reasons, and more, I and the members of AFNA are very pleased to inform you and your colleagues on the Committee of our enthusiastic support for Ms. Tandy's nomination as DEA Administrator.

Best personal wishes.

Sincerely,

John T. Coleman
President